

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BORDEA 00082 071524Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 EURE-00 DODE-00 /033 W  
-----071726Z 102897 /47

P 071455Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0626  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS BORDEAUX 0082

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, FR

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE STRIKE AT THE ELF REFINERY AT  
AMBES.

1. WORKERS AT THE ELF REFINERY AT AMBES HAVE BEEN ON STRIKE FOR MORE THAN TWO WEEKS IN PROTEST AGAINST THE PLANNED SHUT-DOWN OF A PORTION OF THE PLANT WITH THE LOSS OF MORE THAN 200 JOBS.
2. ON APRIL 5 M. SIMMONET, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS FOR ELF CAME TO AMBES FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH UNION OFFICIALS, PLANT REPRESENTATIVES AND FORTY LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO WERE PRESENT IN SUPPORT OF THE STRIKERS. THE STRIKERS HAVE THREE PRINCIPAL DEMANDS: A) STOPPING WORK WHICH HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN PREPARATION FOR THE SHUT-DOWN. B) KEEP THE REFINERY IN FULL OPERATION FOR AT LEAST ONE FULL REFINERY "RUN" (ABOUT 24 MONTHS), C) DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR ACHIEVING IMPROVED PROFITABILITY OF THE REFINERY.

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3. PHILIPPE MADRELLE, P.S., DEPUTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF GIRONDE, WHO LED THE DELEGATION OF LOCAL OFFICIALS

HAS SAID THAT HE WILL PRESENT AN ORAL QUESTION ON THIS MATTER IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 8. GIRONDE PREFECTURE HAS INFORMED ME THAT GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT CAN BE EXPECTED VERY SOON.

4. MOST LOCAL SOURCES, INCLUDING PARTICIPANTS IN PROTEST,  
DOUBT THAT ELF WILL CHANGE ITS ANNOUNCED POSITION RE SHUT-DOWN  
OR THAT GOVERNMENT WILL OFFER SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE.  
MEANWHILE, MAY 7, STRIKERS AND SUPPORTERS HAVE SET UP  
"BARRICADES" AT AMBES. PREFECTURE DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY  
SERIOUS DISORDERS WILL RESULT.  
MARVIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR STRIKES, REFINERIES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, FR  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009